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USPTO Customer No. 25280

JUL 31 2006

Case 5594

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An innerduct guide tube assembly for disposition within a conduit, said innerduct guide tube assembly comprising:
at least one a plurality of polymer guide tubes, wherein each of said guide tubes contains means for installing a cable therein; and
a woven textile sleeve disposed about said guide tubes so that said guide tubes are in slidable relation with said textile sleeve.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently amended) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 2 claim 1, wherein said textile sleeve is made from material selected from the group consisting of glass, aramid, PVDF, melamine, ceramic, polyvinyl chloride, polyphenylene sulfide, polyester, nylon, Teflon, PEEK and polyvinylidene fluoride, mineral fibers, basalt, carbon, and ~~or~~any combination thereof.
4. (Original) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said textile sleeve is made from a monofilament fiber.
5. (Original) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said textile sleeve exhibits a breaking strength in the longitudinal direction of greater than 600 pounds.

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6. (Currently amended) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said textile sleeve is made of fire resistant materials, chosen from the group consisting of polytetrafluoroethylene, polyvinylidene fluoride, or and PEEK.
7. (Currently amended) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said textile sleeve is at least the same length as said guide tubes.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Original) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said textile sleeve is a composite material.
10. (Currently amended) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said guide tubes are manufactured from a material selected from the group consisting of polyester, nylon, Teflon, PEEK, and polyvinylidene fluoride, or and any combination thereof.
11. (Original) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said textile sleeve is coated with material selected from the group consisting of: polyvinyl chloride, silicone, acrylics, polyethylene or other olefins, and any combination thereof.
12. (Currently amended) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said guide tubes are coated with material selected from the group consisting of: polyvinyl chloride, silicone, acrylics, polyethylene or other olefins, and any combination thereof.

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13. (Original) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said textile sleeve is manufactured from synthetic material containing a flame retardant additive.
14. (Original) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 13, wherein said flame retardant additive is selected from the group consisting of: alumina trihydrate, magnesium oxides, magnesium borates, zinc borate, ammonium phosphate, pentaerythritol, alkyd resins, polyols, melamine, melamine cyanurate, dicyandiamide, antimony oxides, halogenated organics, decabromodiphenyl oxide, ammonium phosphates, and organic phosphates and any combination thereof.
15. (Currently amended) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said guide tubes are manufactured from synthetic material containing a flame retardant additive.
16. (Original) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 15, wherein said flame retardant additive is selected from the group consisting of: alumina trihydrate, magnesium oxides, magnesium borates, zinc borate, ammonium phosphate, pentaerythritol, alkyd resins, polyols, melamine, melamine cyanurate, dicyandiamide, antimony oxides, halogenated organics, decabromodiphenyl oxide, ammonium phosphates, and organic phosphates and any combination thereof.

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17. (Original) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said textile sleeve is made from fabric comprising multi-component fibers.
18. (Original) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 17, wherein said multi-component fibers are core-sheath types of fibers.
19. (Original) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 18, wherein said multi-component fibers include a glass core wrapped with a layer of melamine.
20. (Previously presented) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 19, wherein said multi-component fibers further include a layer of fire resistant polyester.
21. (Previously presented) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein said textile sleeve is a woven fabric having polyester yarns in the warp direction and nylon yarns in the fill direction.
22. (Cancelled)
23. (Currently amended) The innerduct guide tube assembly set forth in ~~claim 22~~ claim 1, wherein said means for installing a cable comprises a structure chosen from the group consisting of ~~pull tape~~, pull cord, twisted monofilament yarn, braided yarn, monofilament yarn having a generally round cross-section, ~~or and~~ any combination thereof.

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24. (Withdrawn) A process for inserting an innerduct guide tube assembly into a conduit, said process comprising the steps of:

providing at least one guide tube;

providing a textile sleeve around said guide tube, so that said guide tube is disposed within said textile sleeve in slidable relation; and

imparting a force on said textile sleeve for insertion into a conduit, wherein said textile sleeve carries said guide tube into and through said conduit therewith.

25. (Withdrawn) The process for inserting an innerduct guide tube assembly into a conduit as set forth in claim 24, wherein said step of imparting a force on said textile sleeve includes pulling said textile sleeve through said conduit.

26. (Withdrawn) The process for inserting an innerduct guide tube assembly into a conduit as set forth in claim 24, wherein said step of imparting a force on said textile sleeve includes blowing said textile sleeve through said conduit.

27. (Withdrawn) The process for inserting an innerduct guide tube assembly into a conduit as set forth in claim 24, wherein said textile sleeve is made from material selected from the group consisting of glass, aramid, PVDF, melamine, ceramic, polyvinyl chloride, polyphenylene sulfide, polyester, nylon, Teflon, PEEK and polyvinylidene fluoride, mineral fibers, basalt, carbon or any combination thereof.

28. (Withdrawn) The process for inserting an innerduct guide tube assembly into a conduit as set forth in claim 24, wherein said textile sleeve is made from monofilament fiber.

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29. (Withdrawn) The process for inserting an innerduct guide tube assembly into a conduit as set forth in claim 24, wherein said textile sleeve is a woven article.
30. (Withdrawn) The process for inserting an innerduct guide tube assembly into a conduit as set forth in claim 24, wherein said textile sleeve is at least the same length as said guide tube.
31. (Withdrawn) The process for inserting an innerduct guide tube assembly into a conduit as set forth in claim 24, wherein said textile sleeve exhibits a breaking strength of greater than 600 pounds in the longitudinal direction.
32. (Withdrawn) The process for inserting an innerduct guide tube assembly into a conduit as set forth in claim 24, wherein a plurality of guide tubes are disposed within said textile sleeve.